

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DOHA 01436 210708Z

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1117

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

UNCLAS DOHA 1436

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC

SUBJ: TRAVEL TO AREA BY HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS

REF: STATE 288168

1. IN REPLY REFTEL GLOBETROTTERS REPRESENTATIVE MAULTSBY HAD TWO MEETINGS WITH DIRECTOR OF SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS, THE RESPONSIBLE GOQ OFFICE FOR THIS TYPE PROGRAM. GOQ SEEMED QUITE INTERESTED IN POSSIBILITY OF SOME TYPE GLOBETROTTERS EVENT FOR ITS 1976 GULF SOCCER GAMES WHICH QATAR WILL HOST AND FOR TOUR OF GLOBETROTTERS IN 1977. MAULTSBY ALSO SPOKE TO AN OFFICIAL, AT QATAR TELEVISION STATION, WHO IS INTERESTED IN OBTAINING GLOBETROTTER FILM SERIES (THE CARTOON SERIES AND THE POPCORN MACHINE) FOR USE ON QATAR TELEVISION.

2. WE SUGGEST GLOBETROTTERS OFFICE FOLLOW UP DIRECTLY WITH THESE TWO OFFICES. EMBASSY WILLING TO ASSIST TO EXTENT POSSIBLE AS FACILITATING AGENT, BUT WILL NOT GET DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

3. WE EXPLAINED TO MAULTSBY THAT BEFORE AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED APPROVAL WILL HAVE TO COME DIRECTLY FROM THE AMIR'S OFFICE AND THIS COULD TAKE SOME TIME. IN INTERIM, WE SUGGEST GLOBETROTTER'S OFFICE CONTINUALLY FOLLOW UP THESE POSSIBILITIES VIA DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE WITH APPROPRIATE GOQ OFFICES AND CONTACT WITH QATAR'S REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON.

4. PERSON TO CONTACT AT OFFICE OF SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS IS UNCLASSIFIED

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MR AHMED ANSARI AT P.O. BOX 80, DOHA, QATAR. PERSON AT QATAR

NATIONAL TELEVISION STATION IS MR YOUSEF MUZAFAR, P.O. BOX
1944, DOHA, QATAR.
PAGANELLI

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